

### BIG LOST LAKE IN NEVADA

During comparatively recent geologic times a great lake flooded a number of the valleys in northwestern Nevada. This lake has now almost completely disappeared, but geologists have named it, in its entirety, Lake Lahontan, in honor of Baron La Hontan, one of the early explorers of the headwaters of the Mississippi. At the time of its greatest expansion, according to the United States Geological Survey, Department of the Interior, this ancient lake covered 8,400 square miles. The deepest part of Lake Lahontan, which was 880 feet deep, was the site of the present Pyramid Lake, one of its remnants, so that its surface stood about 500 feet above the surface of Pyramid Lake. The ancient lake had no outlet except the one that led straight up, its waters being dissipated entirely by evaporation.

A large area a few miles north of Winnemucca, Nev., is covered with sand dunes that were formed since Lake Lahontan disappeared. These dunes are fully 75 feet thick, and their steeper slopes are on the east side, indicating that the whole vast field of sand is slowly traveling eastward. The march of this sand is irresistible, and its progress in the roads in the southern part of Little Humboldt Valley during recent years. In some places in this region the telegraph poles have been buried so deep that they have had to be spliced in order to keep the wires above the crest of the sand dunes. The sand is of a light, creamy-yellow color and forms beautifully curved ridges and waves that are covered with an artistic network of wind ripples.

A Chicago moonshiner was discovered making booze out of acorns. That's the kind of stuff that makes drinkers nutty.

### MERITED COMPLIMENT TO NOTED EDUCATOR

The May issue of the Southern School Journal contains a very complimentary sketch of McHenry Rhoads, State inspector of high schools, saying in part: "This time, it seems the office is going a-seeking the man; or at least that the two political parties in Kentucky are going to be very careful in their choice of educational standard bearers. During K. E. A. there was heard a seemingly spontaneous expression of choice among the Democratic school folk there assembled, for McHenry Rhoads to stand for nomination at the hands of his party. This was met at every corner; talked of by folk who seemed to have just thought of it, but to be increasing in enthusiasm as they held the idea. Not strange, either; McHenry Rhoads has lived and labored for better schools for a long time, and has been true to his trust and to his friends at all times."

#### True Sayings.

"The love that causes two hearts to beat as one does not guarantee a continuous performance," wrote the late Edgar Saltus. He also made this true observation: "Life is packed with delights—which the majority of us never enjoy. The world is full of charming people—whom few of us ever meet."

#### Cherries Lead Bacteria Test.

A scientist has succeeded in calculating the number of bacteria in certain fruits. He found a million in half a pound of gooseberries, eight millions in half a pound of grapes, and twelve millions in half a pound of cherries.

#### Practice Serenity.

When a woman says she will be ready in a minute, hang up your hat and find something to read.

## BACKACHE IS A WARNING!

Paris People Should Not Neglect Their Kidneys

Backache is often nature's most frequent signal of weakened kidneys. To cure the pains and aches, to remove the lameness when it arises from weakened kidneys, you must reach the cause—the kidneys. If you have pain through the small of your back, urinary disorders, headaches, dizzy spells, or are nervous and depressed, start treating the kidneys with a tested kidney remedy.

Doan's Kidney Pills have been proved good and are especially for weak kidneys. Doan's have been used in kidney trouble for over 50 years. Read Paris testimony.

Thomas A'Hern, proprietor restaurant, 927 Pleasant street, says: "Doan's Kidney Pills are all right and I recommend them highly. I used Doan's some time ago when my kidneys were out of order and my back ached just over my kidneys. I had dizzy spells and felt sleepy. I lacked ambition to do my work. As soon as I began using Doan's Kidney Pills, which I got at Oberdorfer's Drug Store, I got relief and three boxes cured me."

Price 60c, at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mr. A'Hern had. Foster-Milburn Co., Mfrs., Buffalo, N. Y. (adv)

It seems to be the Genoa view that open covenants openly arrived at shall not be permitted to interfere with quiet little agreements made on the side.

## REPTILES OWN SIXTH SENSE

Famous Zoo Curator Says Snakes Are Endowed With Startling Intelligence.

### POSSESS VERY KEEN EYESIGHT

Distinguish Sound by Their Tongues and Scales—Sense of Taste Very Acute—Tells of Lizard That Walks on Water.

New York.—When next you meet a snake in the woods or fields do not, as you leap nimbly out of reach, give way to thoughts of loathing and contempt. Snakes are extremely useful members of society—even the poisonous ones—and they are endowed with far more intelligence than they get credit for, according to Raymond L. Ditmars, curator for reptiles at the Bronx Zoo.

Also, Mr. Ditmars told 60 or 70 men and women, members of the Reptile Study society, at the sixth annual dinner of the organization, that snakes might even have a sixth sense, an attribute that man cannot even gauge, for human beings have to be content with only five.

"There is a possibility that snakes are far superior to any supposition regarding their attainments," said Mr. Ditmars. "Though their ears have deteriorated, we know that they hear quite well. They are sensitive to sound on their tongues and on the scales on their bodies. Their eyesight is wonderfully keen, especially for moving objects. They have a marvelous sense of taste and of smell."

#### Investigate Pit Vipers.

"Science is now investigating the various species of pit vipers for proof of another snakish sense that as yet we know nothing about. A pit viper, you know, has a strange organ in the skull, a deep pit which is lined with microscopic nerves all joining a main nerve that goes straight to the brain. Science has not yet fathomed the use of this pit. It may be that snakes are actually superior to man with a sixth sense we can't even gauge, for we do not have it."

The dinner at which Mr. Ditmars made this assertion was held at the Cafe Boulevard. The average person who attended the dinner would get something of a shock to find the guests passing around two or three-foot snakes in bunches and longer fellows singly, handling the reptiles as though they were interesting curios or relics.

While these snakes, which, of course, are all harmless, were crawling around the necks and shoulders of men and women, a member of the society, Arthur H. Gillam, brought out a bag. He got a wide space despite the general craning of necks, for in that bag were rattlers and rattlers are rattlers even to the enthusiasts of the Reptile Study society.

As Gillam cautiously unwound the cord from the bag a hissing, buzzing sound filled the room. Nevertheless, Mr. Rattler was left loose on the floor, a forked stick pinning his neck before he could wriggle an inch. Then Gillam took him by the scruff of the neck (if snakes have scruffs) as a child picks up a kitten. The venomous reptile held thus was passed around for inspection.

A "cotton mouthed" moccasin was then put on display. Another snake that received a great deal of attention, being allowed to recline on the speaker's table at the start of the dinner, was an eight-foot boa constrictor. Boas, it was said, make great pets and are absolutely harmless, so long as they are not too big. Then a playful squeeze might crush the ribs of a man or woman, as an inquisitive child crushes a beetle.

#### Lizard Walks on Water.

Professor E. R. Dunn of Smith College told of experiences with snakes in Central America and Mexico.

"At a water hole," he said, "we saw a two or three-foot lizard that stood upright when it saw us and ran to the water. Without pausing it kept right on running and crossed the water hole on top of the water. I hardly expect any of you to believe this, but it is true. The lizard had webbed feet that carried it over the water at top speed. Of course, he couldn't stop or turn around on the water, but must keep going ahead."

Edward F. Bigelow, editor of Guide to Nature, described snakes as the "sweetest, loveliest things in creation."

The purpose and object of the Reptile Study society, as set forth in their prospectus, is to educate "everyone everywhere about the life histories of reptiles—snakes, crocodiles, lizards, turtles and tortoises, and amphibians—frogs, toads and salamanders." The society aims to "benefit mankind and these animals by substituting intelligent consideration and kindness for ignorant dread and atrocious cruelty."

It was said by members at the dinner that the fear of snakes was not instinctive, as generally believed, but was inculcated in children by scared grownups.

#### 10-Cent Bounty for Porcupines.

Annapolis Royal, N. S.—The lowly porcupine is on the run in Nova Scotia, with Frank J. D. Barnjum of this town hot on its trail.

On the ground that the porcupine is destroying the forests, Barnjum has offered a bounty of 10 cents for the snout of each one killed during the present month, with \$100 additional to the hunter who captures the biggest bag.

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